

George was a devoted husband and father. His wife of 60 years, Phyllis, died last June. He is survived by his daughter, Judy Ellman of San Francisco; brother, Charles of Georgetown, Kentucky, and many nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, George Ellman will be missed by so many who shared in his work and dreams. He believed that creating a better world was both necessary and possible. It is fitting to recognize his dedicated efforts to preserve open space in Marin and Sonoma Counties as well as his tireless leadership to help reduce carbon emissions, promote smart growth, and bring back commuter rail service. I join the many people who will miss George Ellman's inspiration, friendship and bright spirit.

CONGRATULATING THE MESA
FIRE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER
CORPS ON RECEIVING THE FIRE
CORPS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Mesa Fire Department Volunteer Corps for winning the 2009 Award of Excellence. Sponsored by the International Fire Service Training Association, this award recognizes the department's outstanding performance in delivering fire and emergency services.

The Mesa Fire Department created the Volunteer Corps in 1998 in order to better connect residents to vital community services after recognizing a gap in their own service. After emergency personnel responded to an initial 9-1-1 call and left the scene, residents were often unaware of further resources available to them. What began as a small cadre of 10 committed volunteers has since grown into a far-reaching program of 130 volunteers responding to over 3,800 calls every year.

The Volunteer Corps is made up of several programs which provide services such as emergency scene transport, grief support, and home safety inspections. In 2008, the Corps provided 29,000 hours of service and saved the community \$585,599.

Particularly during these tough economic times, it is heartening to see so many members of our community devoting their time and energy toward serving one another. I think these volunteers should be proud of what they have accomplished, and know that we are all grateful for their service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on Monday, November 16, 2009, I missed three recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 889, "yea" on rollcall 890, and "aye" on rollcall 891.

HONORING ED EAMES

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Ed Eames.

Ed Eames was a resident of Fresno, California and was a committed advocate for individuals with disabilities. At the age of 42, Mr. Eames lost his sight and this life-altering circumstance motivated him to strive for the improvement of services for the disabled.

Ed was a devoted husband to his beloved wife, Toni, who is also blind. They met when he was writing a book on guide dog schools and asked her to be a co-author. Ed and Toni co-authored two books, numerous magazine columns and articles, and even scripted the award-winning video, "Partners in Independence". The couple also co-taught a class on the sociology of disabilities at California State University, Fresno. Furthermore, along with their guide dogs, Latrell and Keebler, Ed and Toni traveled the world to further their joint commitment to assistance dog programs for the disabled.

Mr. Eames was active in his community and was a fervent supporter of the addition of sidewalks for wheelchair ease and accessibility in the Fresno area. Mr. Ed Eames was the founder and President of the International Association of Assistance Dog Partners. He served on the Americans With Disabilities Act Advisory Committee for Fresno Area Express and was also a member and former president of the North Fresno Lions Club.

On October 25, 2009 at the age of 79, Ed Eames passed away. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him and the work that he did for the disabled will never be forgotten.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF MORRIS BENJAMIN ZEIDMAN

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great American—a man who gave much for his community and country, Morris Benjamin Zeidman, who passed away on November 13.

Mr. Zeidman was born on February 21, 1909 in Brooklyn, New York. He met and married Beatrice Schwartz, who he accompanied back to Wharton, Texas. It was in Wharton that Mr. Zeidman got his start in business by joining the Schwartz family's dry goods store. He ran the store until his retirement in 1992. In 1990, he lost his wife Beatrice. In 1994, Mr. Zeidman married his second wife Marjorie Franklin. They shared eleven joyous years until her death in 2005.

Morris Zeidman served his country in World War II and fought in the D-Day Invasion on June 6, 1944. Throughout his life, Mr. Zeidman served his community as a leader in numerous organizations, including the Lions Club, the Shriners, the Chamber of Commerce, the American Legion, the Wharton Industrial Foundation, and the Boy Scouts of America. He also served as president of the

Shearith Israel Synagogue and was active with B'nai B'rith.

Morris Zeidman led a life that was truly admirable and that placed service to country and others above self. Our thoughts, prayers, and sympathy go out to all the family members of this truly great American.

CONGRATULATIONS LEE COLLEGE
75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, congratulations to Baytown's Lee College on entering its 75th academic year. It is one of the fastest growing community colleges in the nation with over 9,000 enrolled students. Furthermore, Lee College offers over 130 degrees and certificates, and is 6th in the nation for degrees awarded in science and technologies.

In 1931, the Board of Trustees of the Goose Creek Independent School District agreed that a local junior college should be established. Three years later, in 1934, Lee Junior College was founded to serve that purpose. Since its creation, Lee College has seen significant expansion. Enrollment for Lee College's opening semester was a mere 177 students, but current enrollment is more than 50 times that initial number, with over 9000 students enrolled in academic, technical education, and non-credit continuing education programs at the college.

With Lee College students going on to contribute in vital areas of our society, this college has become a very valuable institution of education for my district and for Texas.

TRIBUTE TO AMY ELIZABETH
CORWIN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Amy Elizabeth Corwin, who tragically passed away on July 2, 2009 after a long battle with a brain tumor. Amy served as an intern in my District Office during the summers of 2004 and 2005. Her intellect, warm and engaging personality, and enduring strength have left an indelible impact upon me and my staff.

Amy was born on January 26, 1984 to Joel and Linda Corwin of Westlake Village, California. She had one younger sister, Diana Corwin. From an early age, Amy expressed a love of cultures and travel and a keen aptitude for learning foreign languages. She enjoyed learning about history and architecture, attending the theatre, and exploring museums. While a student at Emory University, Amy spent a semester abroad in Salamanca, Spain, where she immersed herself in the local culture. In Salamanca, Amy stayed with a host family who spoke no English, and she took classes given strictly in Spanish that were attended by Spaniards and students from all over the world. Amy would go on to graduate from Emory in 2006 with her Bachelor of Arts degrees in Political Science, Spanish and Portuguese.

During her internship, Amy served as an invaluable member of my District Office team. On numerous occasions she effectively assisted my Spanish-speaking constituents. In addition to her constituent-service skills, Amy acted as a mentor to new interns. Her warmth, ability to relate to people, and knowledge of public policy issues were evident. Amy effortlessly and ably engaged in political discussions and it became clear that Amy was indeed wiser than her years.

More than anything else, Amy loved spending time with her family and friends. She was a warm and loving daughter, sister, and friend. She was intelligent, compassionate and wanted to find a way to make the world a better place for everyone she encountered. Amy was a terrific athlete and a fierce competitor on the tennis court, and she applied this mentality to all areas of her life. When confronted with a terrible illness, she fought valiantly and she never lost hope that she would beat the disease. Amy was a selfless and caring individual who never wanted to burden others with concerns about her health. She never allowed her illness to change who she was; she remained optimistic and upbeat throughout her life. She wished to be remembered for the person she was, not the illness she endured.

Although Amy's years on this planet were short, her life, nevertheless, was rich. And for all those who had the privilege of meeting or knowing Amy, our lives were made richer as a result. I offer my deepest condolences to Joel, Linda, Diana and to the rest of Amy's family and friends. She will be greatly missed.

HONORING PAM HEAVENS FOR HER TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WILL-GRUNDY CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, this fall Pam Heavens celebrates her twentieth year as Executive Director of the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living. On behalf of the 11th Congressional District of Illinois, I would like to commend Pam for her years of selfless service on behalf of disabled Illinoisans.

As Executive Director, Pam has fought on behalf of thousands of disabled Will and Grundy County residents. The Center serves disabled citizens young and old, including our brave veterans. By offering services ranging from the Low Vision Loan Center to the Home Ownership Program, the Will-Grundy Center for Independent Living helps people with disabilities achieve their goals.

Pam has successfully led the Center through challenging times. The Center has increased services in the midst of a financial climate that has forced many organizations to cut services as they lose important funding sources.

Aside from her duties running the Center, Pam has worked with non-profits and governmental agencies at the local and state level to improve the lives of disabled persons. For example, through the Accessible Cities Alliance, Pam worked to ensure disabled consumers

had access to local businesses through such efforts as the creation of accessible indoor walkways and the construction of wheelchair ramps.

Pam knows firsthand the importance of fighting for disability rights because she lives with cerebral palsy. Despite this challenge, Pam routinely works a sixty-hour work week on behalf of disabled individuals. Pam's dedication and perseverance should serve as an inspiration to all of us.

TRIBUTE TO MIDLAND DOW BOYS TENNIS TEAM

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the team members of the Midland Dow High School Boys Tennis Team. They have represented the town of Midland well with their perseverance and athleticism, and we are very proud of their accomplishments.

The Chargers won the Division Two Boys State Tennis Championship on Saturday, November 17, 2009, after defeating Battle Creek-Lakeview High School: 30-23. This win gives Midland Dow their first Boys Tennis state championship since 1984.

Additionally, this Chargers team was the embodiment of both teamwork and determination. Led by Coach Terry Schwartzkopf, these boys were also models of sportsmanship and set good examples on and off the court.

Team members include: Juan Guerra, Alekzander Davila, Santiago Guerra, Jonathan Gurnee, J.P. Gurnee, Jon Templeman, Austin Woody, Kevin Winegar, Jacob Poliskey, Nate Karsten, Brandon LaFreniere, Alex Haslam, David Read, and Scott Kendall.

I am honored today to recognize the Midland Dow Boys Tennis Team for their accomplishments, and congratulate them on their state championship.

HONORING ANGEL TORRES

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Angel Torres, distinguished journalist and member of my South Florida community, for receiving the 2009 National Award for Journalism given by the National Journalists Association of Cuba in Exile. It is with great pride that I recognize his exemplary work and dedication to sports and journalism throughout the years. Angel, born in La Havana, Cuba, always shared a great passion and interest for baseball. He started playing in the Free Amateur Tournaments of the Stadium with San Pedro and later became manager-player in the Winter Amateur Championships of Octavio Diviñó at Arroyo Naranjo supervising Nebraska, where he received a medal for his distinguished handwork of the immortal Martín Dihigo.

Torres graduated from the Cuban-American Institute and the English Special Center at Jesús del Monte in 1947. By 1952 he grad-

uated of Broadcasting and Journalism sponsored by the National Broadcasting School of Cuba in Radio Progreso. Throughout his sterling service to journalism, he wrote commentaries on sports and jazz for numerous programs like "Pequeños Conjuntos de Grandes Músicos" and "Bandas Innovadoras de Jazz", among many others. After arriving to the United States this inspiring journalist became the only Latin-American and Cuban author with five books in the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, New York. His sports literature served as a renewed hope for Cubans in exile to remember and restart Cuban baseball in the veteran games in New Jersey and Miami. At the same time his work created awareness about Cuban baseball players and about the extinct Professional Cuban Baseball League. As a journalist and member of the Cuban community, Angel Torres was presented in January 28, 2007 by the Patronato José Martí in California, with the most prestige recognition to a Cuban in exile, the White Rose of the commemoration to Apostle José Martí.

Once again, I would like to express how proud I am of Angel for his dedication to journalism, baseball and the Cuban community. His legacy in sports and journalism will serve as an example for our community and as inspiration for everyone to pursue their goals and dreams with commitment and passion.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

Against the counsel of the State Department and others in Washington's foreign policy establishment, President Reagan uttered these six words standing at the Brandenburg Gate June 12, 1987—words that marked his presidency and defined an era.

Former Soviet spy Whittaker Chambers famously said when he defected that he believed he was joining the right side by rejecting communism, but that he was leaving "the winning side for the losing side."

Reagan however, who was himself indelibly shaped by Chambers' account of his defection in the historic book *Witness*, always believed he was on the winning side.

Unbothered by those who cautioned that he would offend the Soviets, Reagan, the eternal optimist, felt compelled to issue this challenge to Gorbachev believing what seemed to be unimaginable at the time—that one day the wall would in fact fall.

Erected in 1961 the Berlin Wall was an enduring symbol of communism—a physical manifestation of the divide between East and West, free and captive.

With rapt attention, many Americans gathered around their televisions 20 years ago as scenes emerged of East Berliners pouring across the border, tearfully embracing strangers, and raising glasses of champagne as they rejoiced with West Berliners in their newfound liberty—the free world rejoiced with them.

For decades an epic struggle had been underway between two vastly different